

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

WT Docket 11-65

**Summary of Complaint : 11-C00295459-1**

**User Complaint Key :** 11-C00295459-1

**Form Type :** 2000F

**Submitted Date :** Mar 30, 2011

**Source :** WEB

**Admin**

**Disposition Status :** Resolved

**Congressional Complaint :** No

**Type :** Wireless

**Category :** Other

**SubCategory :**

**Admin Comments**

At&T buyout of T-mobile

Letter and Serve in the next pages...

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**Form 2000F – Other Communications Complaint  
Not Covered by Form 2000A through Form 2000E**

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**Consumer's Information:**

First Name: **Richard D.** Last Name: **Prescod**

Company Name:

(Complete only if you are filing this complaint on behalf of a company or an organization.)

Post Office Box Number: **8005**

(Official Post Office box Number Only)

Address 1: Address 2:

Mailing Address (where mail is delivered)

City: **Coral Springs** State: **FL** Zip Code: **33075**

Telephone Number (Residential or Business):

E-mail Address:

**\*\*\* ANSWER EACH QUESTION THAT APPLIES TO YOUR SPECIFIC COMPLAINT \*\*\***

1. Type of company that is the subject of your complaint:

2. Please provide the details of your complaint, including the dates, times and nature of any conduct or activity complained of and identifying information of any companies, institutions or individuals involved:

a. Date (mm/dd/yyyy):

b. Name of company or individual:

c. Details of the activity or conduct that form the basis for your complaint:

2000 F

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Richard D. Prescod  
PO Box 8005  
Coral Springs, FL 33075-8005

Received & Inspected

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

MAR 30 2011

FCC Mail Room

T-Mobile USA, Inc.  
Attn: **Philipp Humm, CEO**  
12920 SE 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bellevue, WA 98006

COPY

Dear Mr. Humm:

This Position Statement is in reference to an article I read pertaining to AT&T buyout of T-Mobile USA (<http://www.aolnews.com/2011/03/20/atandamp-t-to-buy-t-mobile-usa-for-39-billion/>). As it stands, consumers are already faced with escalating cost in telecommunications, and the acquisition of T-Mobile by AT&T will further escalate the cost to consumers according to AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson own words as follows: "T-Mobile has relatively cheap service plans compared with AT&T, particularly when comparing the kind that don't come with a two-year contract. AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson said one of the goals of the acquisition would be to move T-Mobile customers to smart phones, which have higher monthly fees. AT&T "will look hard" at keeping T-Mobile's no-contract plans, he said." Why would I want a smart phone when I am quite content with my regular phone? AT&T is boldly stating in advance that they will dictate which phones consumers must use. I am hoping that federal regulators do not allow this acquisition to materialize, because there are no benefits to consumers, only to AT&T executives.

The article also stated in part "The deal would reduce the number of wireless carries with national coverage from four to three". Why government regulators would allow this deal to materialize when it is clearly and boldly stated that competition would be reduced and prices would increase? And to highlight my question, the article stated in part that "The combined company would serve about 43 percent of U.S. cell phones". AT&T assertion that it would "spend an additional \$8 billion to expand ultrafast wireless broadband into rural areas" to mollify regulatory concerns is deceptive and without merit. AT&T and its representatives sole purpose is to capture the entire US market and eventually strangle Sprint, Verizon, and any other cell phone carrier from expanding in an attempt to eliminate competition, leaving consumers with no choice.

Given the progress made thus far between AT&T and T-Mobile on the acquisition, I am prepared to terminate my accounts with T-Mobile, even if I have to pay a termination fee (as a matter of fact T-Mobile should void my contract). I have had my share of experiences with AT&T and I have NO INTENTIONS of reliving those experiences. About a year ago I had a landline with AT&T for a few months of which I terminated, as they tried to include unwarranted charges on my bill, and it was always difficult to reach customer service, and when you do they are unable to provide the assistance one request. On the other hand, T-Mobile customer service is easily accessible, their representatives are exceedingly courteous, and quite knowledgeable; and compared to AT&T one can be confident of a fixed amount in their bill as opposed to AT&T creative ways of inflating one's bill with the hope that it goes un-noticed. With an acquisition of T-Mobile by AT&T, there will be massive layoffs and with the molding of T-Mobile personnel into AT&T culture, consumers will certainly experience the same level of the lack of professional service. With AT&T making a statement in part as follows: "The deal is final and doesn't leave room for other buyers jumping in with a higher bid", leaves one to wonder if AT&T and T-Mobile acted under the aegis of the regulatory agencies to finalize this acquisition behind closed doors before making it public.

If the regulators allow this acquisition to materialize, it would be tantamount to financial rape upon consumers. I will closely monitor developments and at the appropriate time terminate my accounts with T-Mobile, and switch to Sprint or Verizon depending on package cost. I am hoping that other T-Mobile customers do the same, and I will be on a crusade to educate those who I know that currently have T-Mobile phones to stop using said service.

Sincerely,



Richard D. Prescod

cc. Federal Communications Commission  
Attn: Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

AT&T  
Attn: Randall L. Stephenson, CEO  
208 S. Akard Street  
Dallas, TX 75202



## AT&T to Buy T-Mobile USA for \$39 Billion

Mar 20, 2011 – 6:01 PM

Text Size

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**Peter Svensson**

AP

**NEW YORK** -- AT&T Inc. said today it will buy T-Mobile USA from Deutsche Telekom AG in a cash-and-stock deal valued at \$39 billion that would make it the largest cellphone company in the U.S.

The deal would reduce the number of wireless carriers with national coverage from four to three, and is sure to face close regulatory scrutiny. It also removes a potential partner for Sprint Nextel Corp., the struggling No. 3 carrier, which had been in talks to combine with T-Mobile USA, according to Wall Street Journal reports.

AT&T is now the country's second-largest wireless carrier and T-Mobile USA is the fourth largest. The acquisition would give AT&T 129 million subscribers, vaulting it past Verizon Wireless to make it the largest U.S. cellphone company. The combined company would serve about 43 percent of U.S. cellphones.

For T-Mobile USA's 33.7 million subscribers, the news doesn't immediately change anything. Because of the long regulatory process, AT&T expects the acquisition to take a year to close. But when and if it closes, T-Mobile USA customers would get access to AT&T's phone line-up, including the iPhone.

The effect of reduced competition in the cellphone industry is harder to fathom. Public interest group Public Knowledge said that eliminating one of the four national phone carriers would be "unthinkable."

"We know the results of arrangements like this -- higher prices, fewer choices, less innovation," said Public Knowledge president Gigi Sohn, in a statement.

T-Mobile has relatively cheap service plans compared with AT&T, particularly when comparing the kind that don't come with a two-year contract. AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson said one of the goals of the acquisition would be to move T-Mobile customers to smart phones, which have higher monthly fees. AT&T "will look hard" at keeping T-Mobile's no-contract plans, he said.

AT&T's general counsel, Wayne Watts, said cellphones are "an incredibly competitive market,"

with five or more carriers in most major cities. He pointed out that prices have declined in the last decade, even as the industry has consolidated. In the most recent mega-deal, Verizon Wireless bought No. 5 carrier Alltel for \$5.9 billion in 2009.

AT&T would pay about \$25 billion in cash to Deutsche Telekom, Germany's largest phone company, and stock that is equivalent to an 8 percent stake in AT&T. Deutsche Telekom would get one seat on AT&T's board.

Like Sprint, T-Mobile has been struggling to compete with much larger rivals AT&T and Verizon Wireless, and its revenue has been largely flat for three years. Bellevue, Wash.-based T-Mobile USA's subscriber count has stalled at just under 34 million, though it posts consistent profits.

Deutsche Telekom has been looking at radical moves to let it get more value out of its U.S. holding, including a possible combination with a U.S. partner.

There was a big hurdle to a T-Mobile USA-Sprint deal: The two companies use incompatible network technologies. The same hurdle would apply in a Verizon Wireless-T-Mobile USA deal. But the networks of AT&T and T-Mobile use the same underlying technology, so to some large extent, AT&T phones can use T-Mobile's network and vice versa.

AT&T said its customers would benefit from the cell towers and wireless spectrum the deal would bring. In some areas, it would add 30 percent more capacity, AT&T said.

"It obviously will have a significant impact in terms of dropped calls and network performance," Stephenson said.

To assuage regulatory concerns, AT&T said in a statement Sunday that it would spend an additional \$8 billion to expand ultrafast wireless broadband into rural areas. Instead of covering about 80 percent of the U.S. population with its so-called Long Term Evolution, or LTE network, AT&T's new goal would be 95 percent, it said. That means blanketing an additional area 4.5 times the size of Texas. The network is scheduled to go live in a few areas this summer, but construction will take years.

The deal has been approved by the boards of both companies. Dallas-based AT&T can increase its cash portion by up to \$4.2 billion, with a reduction in the stock component, as long as Deutsche Telekom receives at least a 5 percent equity ownership interest in the buyer.

The deal is final and doesn't leave room for other buyers jumping in with a higher bid, AT&T said.

AT&T would finance the cash part of the deal with new debt and cash on its balance sheet and will assume no debt from T-Mobile.